(a) lump-sum financial assistance upto Rs. 40,000 is also given for medical treatment in case of injury.

(b) Sportspersons who suffer from fatal injury in the course of participation in sports events during training are also helped subject to maximum assistance of Rs.1 lakh.

Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons:— Under the scheme launched in 1994, pension is given to sportspersons who win medals in Olympics games, World Cup/world Championships, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games and Paralymic Games.

Schemes under Rural Sports Programme

1801. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being run finder the "Rural Sports Programme";

(b) the names of agencies through which the said programme is being undertaken;

(c) the criteria for allocation of funds for the implementation of the said project; and

(d) the details of funds allocated by Government for organizing rural sports programmes in Andhra Pradesh during the last one and half year alongwith the name of agency through which the funds have been allocated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is implementing a scheme of 'Incentives for Promotion of sports Activities' under which Rural Sports Programme is one of the components. Under this programme, rural sports competitions/ tournaments are organized at Block, District, State and National level. Sports Festival for the North-Eastern Region is also organized under this programme.

(b) Rural Sports Programme is being implemented through Sports Authority of India (SAI).

(c) Grant-in-aid is provided through SAI for organizing District level, State level and National level tournaments. For District level competitions,

the grant-in-aid is placed at the disposal of SAI for allocation to State/UT Governments. Financial assistance of Rs. 30,000/- per discipline is also made available by the Ministry for Non-Governmental Organisations, including Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, for organizing District level competitions.

The State/UT level tournaments are organized by SAI in collaboration with the States/UTs. Assistance for holding the State level tournaments is provided to SAI at the rate of Rs. 50,000/- per discipline. In case of UT, this assistance is restricted to Rs. 25,000/- per disciplines. For National level tounaments, a grant of Rs. 2,50,000\- per disciplines is provided to SAI, for organizing the tournament separately for men and women in various State by rotation.

In order to broad-base games and sports in the North-Eastern States and to tap the hidden talent, which is in abundance there, the Government of India provides enhanced assistance of Rs. 50,000/- per district for district level competitions and Rs. 75,000/- per discipline for State level competition. The North-Eastern States covered under the scheme are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

(d) No proposal has been received for release of funds from Andhra Pradesh during the last one and half year.

Re. EPF INTEREST RATE—(Contd.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table. Shri Mahavir Prasad.. .*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वाराज (उत्तरांचल)**:** सभापति जी, प्रधानमंत्री जी जा रहे हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... सर, उन्हें रुकने को कहिए। उस दिन आपने कहा था ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: आ गए वापस।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, दो बातें हैं। एक तो अभी जो प्रश्नकाल के समय ई.पी.एफ. का मामला उठा था, तब आपने विश्वास दिया था कि सरकार की तरफ से प्रधानमंत्री जी होंगे। इसलिए यह ई.पी.एफ. का मामला उनके सामने उठे, यह मेरी गुजारीश है।

श्री सभापति: नहीं, यह नहीं कहा था।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी: सर, आपने आश्वासन यह नहीं दिया था। ...(**व्यवधान**)...